Message Text

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PAGE 01 BANGKO 20759 221125Z

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 SS-15 CPR-01 PRS-01 SY-05 OIC-02

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FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1119

INFO USUN NEW YORK 1683

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: PFOR, UNGA

SUBJECT: SECVISIT: 31ST UNGA

REF: STATE 180074

1. MFA INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE DIVISION CHIEF PRASOET MASUDI ON JULY 22 TOLD EMBOFF THAT FOREIGN MINISTER PHICHAI RATTAKUN IS EXPECTED TO ATTEND OPENING OF 31ST UNGA; AFTER BRIEF STAY IN NEW YORK, PHICHAI WILL RETURN THAILAND AT WHICH TIME DEPUTY MINISTER LEK NANA WILL REPLACE PHICHAI AS HEAD OF THAI DELEGATION. PRASOET SAID SPECIFIC TRAVEL PLANS HAVE NOT YET BEEN DECIDED. BUT PROMISED TO NOTIFY EMBASSY WHEN DETAILS ARE KNOWN. EMBOFF INQUIRED ABOUT NEWS RE-PORT (THE NATION, JULY 22) THAT PHICHAI HAD TOLD JAPANESE CORRESPONDENT FROM YOMIURI SHIMBUN DURING INTERVIEW THAT HE WOULD BE VISITING "SOME EAST EUROPEAN SOCIALIST COUNTRIES" ENROUTE TO NEW YORK; PRASOET REPLIED HE WAS UNABLE TO CON-FIRM REPORT AND SAID HE REALLY DIDN'T KNOW WHAT PHICHAI WAS PLANNING IN CONJUNCTION WITH HIS TRAVEL TO UNGA.

2. WE PRESUME PHICHAI WILL WANT TO HOLD BILATERAL DIS-CUSSION WITH THE SECRETARY WHILE IN NEW YORK, PARTICULARLY SINCE AP HAS STORY THAT SECRETARY HAD CONSIDERED BUT WILL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 02 BANGKO 20759 221125Z

NOT MAKE STOP IN THAILAND IN CONJUNCTION WITH HIS PROPOSED

VISIT TO IRAN. THAI OFFICIALS HAVE LATELY BEEN GOING
OUT OF THEIR WAY TO ASSURE US OF THEIR GOODWILL AND CONTINUED FRIENDSHIP; PHICHAI WILL PROBABLY WANT TO MAKE
SIMILAR GESTURE AS WELL AS DISCUSS THAILAND'S EVOLVING RELATIONSHIP WITH ITS INDOCHINESE NEIGHBORS. EMBASSY HOPES THAT
THERE WILL BE OPPORTUNITY FOR THE SECRETARY TO MEET WITH
THAI FOREIGN MINISTER. MORE SPECIFIED SUGGESTIONS ON
INDOCHINA AND OTHER POSSIBLE TOPICS OF DISCUSSION WILL BE
SUBMITTED WHEN PHICHAI RETURNS FROM VISITS TO VIENTIANE
AND HANOI IN AUGUST.
WHITEHOUSE

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Message Attributes

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